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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

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April 2, 2014

The Honorable Cheryl A. LaFleur
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman LaFleur:

On February 11, 2014, the Department of Energy issued the Cameron LNG Project (Cameron LNG), in Louisiana, a conditional permit to export liquefied natural gas. With the export approval now in place, the major remaining hurdle to the Cameron LNG Project being shovel-ready is the siting approval needed from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

I cannot overemphasize how important it is that FERC carryout its regulatory responsibilities regarding Cameron LNG in a timely manner. We must make certain that the regulatory process for approval of LNG facilities such as Cameron LNG does not disadvantage American exporters in the battle for the huge international LNG market. Also at stake are the over 3,000 jobs that will be created by the Cameron Project.

I appreciate the efforts of the FERC staff and other Federal and State agencies in moving Cameron LNG through the FERC siting approval process. Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) a draft environmental impact statement was issued on October 11, 2013, for comment. The deadline for comments on the DEIS was March 3, 2014. My office has reviewed comments filed on the DEIS. That review indicates that there are no significant new issues raised in the DEIS comments. Thus there is a clear path for FERC to follow to timely issue a final EIS and grant the application sought by Cameron LNG.

FERC is scheduled to issue a final environmental impact statement by April 30, 2014. It is absolutely imperative that FERC meet its current schedule for completing the NEPA process. I respectfully request that you do all that is in your power to keep the NEPA process for Cameron LNG on track and on schedule. We need your best environmental, technical and legal team at FERC to get the Cameron LNG NEPA work done both thoroughly and on time for this important project.

Finally, I request that the Commission issue a siting approval to Cameron LNG no later than mid-June 2014. This deadline gives FERC more than enough time to get this done right, particularly due to the lack of any significant new issues being raised in the comments on the DEIS.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mary L. Landrieu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and last name "Landrieu" clearly legible.

Mary L. Landrieu
Chair